

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GABORO 01279 240912Z

12

ACTION CU-04

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FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4603

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TAGS: OEXC BC

SUBJ: FY-73 IV RURAL DEVELOPMENT GROUP

REF: A) STATE 167399

B) GABORONE A-25

1. ITINERARY SUGGESTIONS REQUESTED REFTEL A) CONTAINED IN REF. B) AIRGRAM-GABORONE A-25 OF FEB. 13, 1973. PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS INCLUDE: OPPORTUNITY TO RESEARCH AND OBSERVE RURAL AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WITH EMPHASIS ON CONSERVATION, WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT, WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AND SEMI-ARID AGRICULTURAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE/PROGRAM TECHNIQUES EMPLOYED IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN POOR RURAL SETTINGS. EMPHASIS SHOULD ALSO BE PLACED ON SELF-HELP ACTIVITIES AND LOCAL RURAL ORGANIZATION SUCH AS GRANGE, 4-H, NFO AND FARM BUREAU WITH PARTICULAR ATTENTION GIVEN TO TRAINING OF YOUTH AND CREATION OF JOB OPPORTUNITIES AT LOCAL LEVEL IN RURAL AREAS.

2. ALL THREE RURAL DEVELOPMENT LEADERS VERY CONCERNED WITH EFFECTIVE USE AND CONSERVATION OF WATER RESOURCES AND SEMI-ARID LAND. ANOTHER AREA OF INTEREST IS THE CREATION OF 'VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEES', A SORT OF SELF-HELP DEVELOPMENT GROUP AT GRASS-ROOTS LEVEL AND EXPOSURE TO SIMILAR TYPES OF ORGANIZATIONS - PERHAPS AMONG AMERICAN INDIANS IN SOUTHWEST - WOULD SEEM USEFUL. OBSERVATION OF RURAL POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS WOULD ALSO BE WORTHWHILE. CATTLE INDUSTRY IS A MAINSTAY OF BOTSWANA ECONOMY AND PROGRAM OBSERVATION AT LUBBOCK, TEXAS RESEARCH STATION FOR SEMI-ARID AGRICULTURE WOULD SEEM VALUABLE.

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